

Sinclair  
Broadcasting's  
decision to force  
their stations to  
air an anti-Kerry  
program days before  
the election is a  
clear example of the  
dangers of media  
consolidation.  
Furthermore, their  
program will be  
aired as "news" when  
it is little more  
than an extended  
political  
advertisement.

Sinclair uses the  
public airwaves free  
of charge, it is  
obligated by law to  
serve the public  
interest. But when  
large companies  
control the  
airwaves, we get  
more of what's good  
for the bottom line  
and less of what we  
need for our  
democracy. We leave  
ourselves open to  
flagrant political  
partisanship and  
censorship of news  
that do not further  
the political or  
economic interests  
of a centralized  
ownership, such as  
this decision by  
Sinclair  
Broadcasting. We  
also miss out on  
seeing real people  
from our own  
communities and more  
substantive news  
about issues that  
matter.

Sinclair's actions  
show why we need to  
strengthen media  
ownership rules, not  
weaken them. They  
show why the license  
renewal process  
needs to involve  
more than a returned  
postcard.  
Sinclair's actions  
are obstructing,  
rather than serving,

the public interest.

Thank you.